

# BOARD OF ETHICS

## Open Session Minutes August 27, 2008 - 3:15 p.m. 740 North Sedgwick, Suite 500

### **Board Members Present**

Miguel A. Ruiz, Chair  
Thomas McCarthy  
Michael F. Quirk  
John L. Wilhelm, M.D.

### **Absent**

Alison C. Chisolm

### **Staff Present**

Steven I. Berlin, Acting Executive Director  
Richard J. Superfine, Legal Counsel  
Courtney L.D. Kimble, Attorney/Investigator  
Edward Primer, Program Director  
Pully Casillas, Staff Assistant

## **I. Approval of Minutes**

The Board VOTED 4-0 (Alison C. Chisolm, absent) to approve the Open Session minutes of the July 10, 2008 special meeting and the July 16, 2008 regularly scheduled meeting.

## **II. Chair's Report**

Deferred.

## **III. Acting Executive Director's Report**

### **A. Education-Classes**

Since the last Board meeting, staff has conducted 3 regularly scheduled classes for persons required to attend ethics training. 20 attended on July 24, 31 attended on August 7, and 26 attended on August 21. There are currently 29 scheduled for class on September 4, and 31 for September 18.

At the request of OMP's Director, staff will make a 45 minute presentation to OMP contractors on September 26; the third of four.

### **B. Mandatory Annual Ethics Education**

As of today at 2:30 pm, approximately 28,100 City employees and 11 aldermen have completed their 2008 on-line training. This is approximately 77% of the City's full-time workforce.

**C. Statements of Financial Interests**

As of today at 2:30, there remain 7 employees and 2 appointed officials who have not filed as required in 2008. There will be more on this in closed session.

To date in 2008, the Board has collected \$9,780 in late filing fees for the 2008 filing year.

**D. 2009 Budget**

On August 14, the agency's 2009 budget request was submitted. It is an austerity budget. As required by the administration of all City agencies (to decrease personnel expenses by 15%), we were forced to lay off one staff member, our Administrative Services Officer. Her functions will be split between the remaining support staff members. With the one critical vacancy, Executive Director, our budget request comes to \$724,000, a decrease of 5.7% from our 2008 appropriation. The submission is available for your review.

**E. Lobbyist Registration**

There are currently **624** lobbyists that have registered with the City for this year. To date, **\$131,800.00** in lobbyist registration fees have been deposited with the Department of Revenue.

The deadline for lobbyists' semi-annual activity report filings was July 20. As required by law, on August 5, staff sent 58 notices of non-filing via certified mail to 58 lobbyists. As of today, there remain 6 lobbyists who have yet to file their reports.

**F. Illinois Freedom of Information Act**

Since the last regularly scheduled Board meeting, the office has received six requests (two of which are still being processed) under the Freedom of Information Act. These were for 563 Statements of Financial Interests for 63 employees, resulting in copying and production thus far of 105 records.

**IV. Old Business**

None.

**V. New Business**

None.

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The Board VOTED 4-0 (Alison C. Chisolm, absent) to adjourn into Executive Session at 3:28 p.m. to review matters concerning the conduct of employees and officials of the City that could result in their discipline or dismissal, to review questions concerning matters of professional ethics and performance, to review matters in which litigation is ongoing, and/or to review matters in which the Board finds that litigation against or affecting the Board is probable or imminent.

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